Claims

1. A kit of parts comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical formulation including a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier; and

(b) a pharmaceutical formulation including a prodrug of a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative of that prodrug, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier,

which components (a) and (b) are each provided in a form that is suitable for administration in conjunction with the other.

2. A kit of parts as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the prodrug of component (b) is a prodrug of the thrombin inhibitor of component (a).

3. A kit of parts as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, wherein components (a) and (b) are suitable for sequential, separate and/or simultaneous use in the treatment of a condition in which inhibition of thrombin is required or desired.

4. A kit of parts as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the condition is deep venous thrombosis.

5. A kit of parts as claimed in [redacted] Claims 1 [redacted], wherein the thrombin inhibitor is melagatran.

6. A kit of parts as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the prodrug is of the formula

$$R^1O_2C\text{-}CH_2\text{-}(R)Cgl\text{-}Aze\text{-}Pab\text{-}OH,$$

wherein R^1 represents linear or branched C_{1-6} alkyl and the OH group replaces one of the amidino hydrogens in Pab.

7. A kit of parts as claimed in Claim 6, wherein R^1 represents methyl, ethyl or propyl.

8. A kit of parts as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims, wherein the formulation comprising thrombin inhibitor, or derivative thereof, is a parenteral formulation and that comprising the prodrug, or derivative thereof, is an oral formulation.

9. A method of making a kit of parts as defined in ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 8~~, which method comprises bringing a component (a) according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, into association with a component (b) according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, thus rendering the two components suitable for administration in conjunction with each other.

10. A kit of parts comprising:
(1) one of components (a) and (b) as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 8; together with
(2) instructions to use that component in conjunction with the other of the two components.

11. A pharmaceutical formulation including a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) and a prodrug of a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor (or a

pharmaceutically acceptable derivative of that prodrug), in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

12. A method of treatment of a condition in which inhibition of thrombin is required or desired, which comprises administration of:

(a) a pharmaceutical formulation including a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier; in conjunction with

(b) a pharmaceutical formulation including a prodrug of a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative of that prodrug, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier,

to a patient suffering from, or susceptible to, such a condition.

13. A method as claimed in Claim 12 in which component (a) is administered prior to commencement of administration of component (b).

14. A method of treatment of a condition in which inhibition of thrombin is required or desired, which comprises administration of a formulation as defined in Claim 11 to a patient suffering from, or susceptible to, such a condition.

15. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 12 to 14, wherein the condition is deep venous thrombosis.

16. A method as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the thrombosis results from surgery.

17. A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the surgery is gastrointestinal surgery or orthopaedic surgery.

18. A method as claimed in Claim 16 [redacted], wherein component (a) is administered parenterally prior to and/or after surgery and component (b) is administered orally following that surgery.

19. The use of a thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition in which inhibition of thrombin is required or desired, which treatment or prophylaxis comprises administration of:

(a) a pharmaceutical formulation including a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier; in conjunction with

(b) a pharmaceutical formulation including a prodrug of a low molecular weight thrombin inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative of that prodrug, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier,

to a patient suffering from, or susceptible to, such a condition.